

Abstract

The present invention is based on the discovery that the Disabled 1 protein (Dab1) is a substrate for Cdk5 activity, and is selectively phosphorylated by Cdk5. An assay to determine Cdk5 activity by detection of Dab1 phosphorylation on serine amino acids that
5 are selectively phosphorylated by Cdk5 is provided. The invention further provides an antibody and screening kit to determine Cdk5 activity, a method for detecting a neurological disorder by determining Cdk5 activity, a method of screening for compounds that increase or decrease Cdk5 activity and a method for treating a neurological disorder with such a compound.